

# **ELEMENTARY EDUCATION**

## **CERTIFICATE**

### **Grades 1 - 6**

The Elementary Education Certificate is valid for assignment as an Elementary Education teacher in grades 1 - 6 in Rhode Island public schools.

#### **Certification Requirements for full Rhode Island Certification<sup>1</sup>**

To be issued a certificate in Elementary Education an applicant must satisfy all of the following:

- Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution
- Completion of an approved program for the preparation of Elementary Education Teacher
- Completion of a minimum of 12 weeks of Student Teaching in this area and a minimum of 60 hours Field Experience prior to Student Teaching
- Demonstration of meeting the Professional Competencies of the Rhode Island Professional Teaching Standards (RIPTS)
- Demonstration of meeting the Content Competencies as prescribed by the Association for Childhood Education International and Content Specific Standards (ACEI)
- Other requirements:
  - There are no other preparation and/or experience requirements for this certificate. However, applicants must meet all Rhode Island assessment requirements.

#### **Assessment Requirements**

Go to [www.ets.org](http://www.ets.org) for test registration, dates and locations

#### **All applicants must meet the following Rhode Island assessment requirements:**

- Applicants must achieve a passing score of 160 on the Praxis II Principles of Learning and Teaching - Grades K-6 (0622/5622) AND passing scores on the Praxis II Elementary Multiple Subjects (5031), which consists of: a passing score of 165 on the Reading and Language Arts Subtest Test (5032), a passing score of 164 on the Mathematics Subtest Test (5033), a passing score of 155 on the Social Science Subtest Test (5034), a passing score of 159 on the Science Subtest Test (5035).
- Applicants prepared in a program where the language of instruction was not English must achieve a passing score of 64 on the Versant Pro Speaking and Writing English assessments.

#### **Current Routes to Certification**

Certification may be attained through the following routes:

- Completion of RI approved program from one of the following: Brown University, Johnson & Wales University, Providence College, Rhode Island College, Roger Williams University, Salve Regina University, University of Rhode Island, Teach for America and The New Teacher Project
- Reciprocity
- Transcript Analysis

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<sup>1</sup> Full Certification in Rhode Island means a multi-year certificate that demonstrates the educator has met all Rhode Island requirements for certification in the three-tier certification system (Initial, Professional, or Advanced certification). Full Certification does not include Preliminary Certifications which require educators to meet additional requirements to attain full certifications. Full certifications in Rhode Island are comparable to National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) stage three or higher certificates and are recognized by other states for certificate reciprocity.

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#### **Reciprocity Requirements**

Reciprocity is recognition of preparation or certification in another state as comparable to Rhode Island. Applicants seeking certification through reciprocity must demonstrate that they meet all Rhode Island certification assessment requirements, hold the additional required certificate and meet all experience requirements when applicable. Applicants can attain certification by completing a state approved program for Educator Certification in a state other than Rhode Island within the last 5 years OR by demonstrating that they hold a currently valid full certificate in another state.

#### **Transcript Analysis Requirements**

Applicants who have not completed an approved program or do not meet reciprocity requirements can be certified by Transcript Analysis until December 31, 2014. Beginning January 1, 2015 a Credential Review process will replace transcript analysis in areas for which there are no Rhode Island approved preparation programs.

- Applicants who have not completed an approved program can be certified by transcript analysis by presenting evidence of the following:
  - 6 semester hours of student teaching in the relevant area and at the appropriate grade level
  - Not less than 24 semester hours of coursework in each of the following areas:
    - Child Growth and Development
    - Methods and Materials of Teaching Math, Science, Social Studies, Reading, Language Arts in the Elementary Schools
    - The Arts
    - Identification and Service to Special Needs Children
    - Foundations of Education
  - Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution
  - Meet all Rhode Island assessment requirement(s) for this certificate area

The student teaching requirement may be waived for an applicant who has had two or more documented years of successful teaching experience in an approved elementary setting. Certified teachers who have had two or more years teaching experience and who seek elementary education certification may fulfill the student teaching requirement by completing a one-year supervised internship at the elementary level. After completing the necessary course work for the elementary education certificate, and arranging through the local community for a one-year internship, the Superintendent of Schools may request the issuance of a one-year professional certificate. The Department of Education must approve the internship in advance and the supervisor must have at least three years of teaching experience in the relevant area and at the appropriate grade level. Upon successful completion of the internship, the individual will be issued a five year professional certificate.